



# *The Heterodyne*

**Bulletin of the West Valley Amateur Radio Association  
An Affiliated Club of the American Radio Relay League**

**West Valley Amateur Radio Association, W6PIY — <http://www.wvara.org>  
P.O. Box 6544  
San José, CA 95150-6544**

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**October 2008**

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., October 15, 2008 at the American Red Cross, 2731 North First Street at Plumeria (between Trimble and Montague Expressway) in San José. Speaker: Jim Peterson, K6EI — Subject: "Low Band Antennas, Including a Half-square Yagi Design"

**California QSO Party (CQP), October 45** — Just before sitting down to put this month's bulletin together on Saturday afternoon October 4, I operated for about 15 minutes of the CQP on 20M CW, and contacted the usual suspects: W6NL and K6YT. — DE AD6YU

**PACIFICON 2008 Is Coming! October 17-19, 2008** — San Ramon Marriott Hotel, San Ramon, California. For events, latest updates, and tickets sales, go to the web site: [www.PACIFICON.org](http://www.PACIFICON.org)

**Amateur Radio Theory Class and License Examination at PACIFICON**— The class will be taught Saturday, October 18 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A special license test for those who take the class will be given at 5:00 p.m. The class is limited in enrollment to 40 students, so sign up early. You must purchase a PACIFICON general admission ticket to attend this class. There is no additional charge for the class, but there is the usual \$14 fee for taking the license test at 5:00 p.m. No Morse code is required to become a ham. The recommended book to obtain and read before the class is: *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual: All You Need to Become a Ham Radio Operator*.

**Jamboree on the Air, October 18, 2008**— Don Village, K6PBQ will be operating Jamboree on the Air on Saturday October 18 from his home station. If you know any scouting groups that would like to join him (boys or girls) please e-mail [donvillage7@yahoo.com](mailto:donvillage7@yahoo.com) or call him at 408-263-2789.

**A Helpful Hint on Using Our Repeaters, W6PIY** — Members, please remember that "kerchunking" the repeater is not good amateur practice. "Kerchunking" can be described as a quick "click" of the microphone "push-to-talk" button, the goal of which is to cause the repeater to transmit, so that a user knows that the repeater is "still there."

A "kerchunk," if not followed by station identification, is also a violation of FCC Regulations, Part 97, not to speak of being annoying to the people who listen to the Association's repeaters in order to help someone who may have emergency traffic.

If you want to confirm that the repeater is "still there," please be so kind as to monitor for approximately 30 seconds to be sure there is no conversation in progress, then press the "transmit" button, pause, and say your call sign. This will cause the repeater to go through its "initial ID" sequence if the repeater has not been used in a while. So you will get much more than a courtesy tone in return.

If someone then calls you, and you do not want to talk to them, you can either (a) not respond, or (b) apologize that you cannot talk right now, and sign clear. If someone calls you, and you want to talk to them, that's so much the better. But please do not "kerchunk" the repeaters.

**WVARA Tuesday Night Net Check-ins:**

Call Sign	Name	Sept. 9, 2008	Sept. 16, 2008	Sept. 23, 2008	Sept. 30, 2008
AB6XS	Kevin		X	X	
AD6YU	Loren	X #	X		X
AF6GZ	Duane			X	
K6EBN	Eben	X		X	
KD6VOR	Marv	X			
KF6BFA	William				X
KF6EMB	Svend			X	
KF6UTE	Casey	X	X	X	
KG6BKI	Brian	X	X		X
KG6MYR	Harry	X		X	
KG6SEA	Tom	X	X	X	
KK6VF	Kevin	X	X #	X #	X #
N6BIH	Senad		X		
N6IPS	Roy	X			X
N6SSB	Jimmy	X			
NU6P	John			X	
W6HOC	Howard	X		X	X
W6TQG	Phil	X	X	X	
W6ZZZ	Marc				X
WB6KHP	Dave	X	X	X	

**Notes:**

# — Net control operator

X — Checked into net

**Club Net:** Tuesday, 8:30 p.m. on our club repeaters:

WVARA Repeaters (W6PIY)			
Band	MHz	PL	Status
6 Meters	52.580-	151.4 Hz	Operating
2 Meters	147.39+	151.4 Hz	Operating
1.25 Meters	223.96-	156.7 Hz	Operating
0.70 Meter	441.35+	88.5 Hz	Operating
0.23 Meter	1286.2-	100 Hz	Operating

**2009 ARRL Handbook (86<sup>th</sup> Edition) Now Available—**

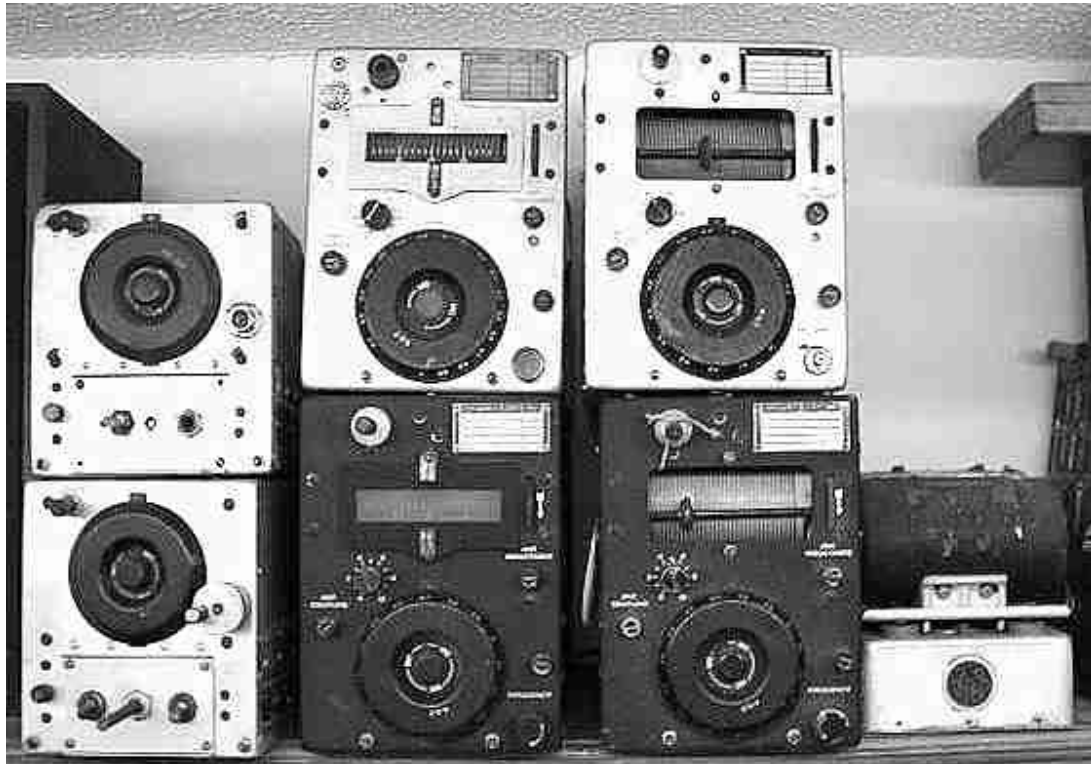
*The 2009 ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications* uniquely serves both amateur experimenters and industry practitioners, emphasizing connections between basic theory and application. *The ARRL Handbook* is simply the standard in applied electronics and communications. This 86<sup>th</sup> edition is both a useful introduction to radio communication and features the most current material on electronics and Amateur Radio.

A CD-ROM is included with the book, and presents book the book's content as well as updated versions of useful software.

The softcover edition of the book sells for \$44.95; the hardcover sells for \$59.95.

See the web site: <http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=no-hb2009>

Both editions are available now.



Mike, W7DRA is unlikely to convert to the digital era any time soon. He used this collection of ARC-5 gear in the Washington State Salmon Run contest.

**West Valley Amateur Radio Association**

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**WEST VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**  
**PO BOX 6544**  
**SAN JOSE CA 95150-6544**

**STAMP**

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

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